

Pollution Prevention

Make it Work for You

Answering all of these questions should give you a pretty good idea of how you are doing on pollution prevention and recycling. Hopefully they will give you some ideas for doing some things that you are not currently doing.

General	Yes	No
Do you have a pollution prevention policy?		
Do have a pollution prevention plan or program?		
Are your employees actively involved in pollution prevention?		
Do you have an employee award or recognition program for accomplishments in pollution prevention?		
Have you considered pollution prevention as a way to:		
a. change your hazardous waste generator status?		
b. save money?		
c. achieve regulatory limits and avoid add-on controls?		
d. meet permit conditions?		
Purchasing		
Do you have a purchasing policy that includes pollution prevention concerns?		
Do you buy materials in returnable (recyclable) containers?		
Do you get help from your supplier on substitute materials that are less toxic (non-toxic)?		
Will your supplier take back damaged or outdated materials?		
Do your purchasing, environmental, and inventory control personnel communicate with each other to ensure purchases match inventory needs without overstocking and having materials become wastes due to limited shelf life?		
Waste Tracking and Management		
Where do your wastes and emissions come from? Can you trace back to their source? If so, will prevention or recycling be more effective than treatment or disposal?		
Do you get help from supplier, consultants, or trade groups on how properly manage and control wastes and emissions?		
Do you separate toxic wastes from non-toxic wastes?		
Do you consistently emphasize the importance of good housekeeping practices and materials conservation to your employees?		
Do you subscribe to a waste exchange service?		
Have you developed any new technology for pollution prevention or recycling that may be patentable?		
Are you aware of financial and technical assistance opportunities for helping you do waste reduction audits?		
Public Relations		
Do you promote your product(s), or your firm, as being environmentally sound?		
Does your firm qualify as an environmentally sound business for environmental or		

"green" investment portfolios?		
Do you use recycled materials in your products?		
Are your products safe to dispose of or easy to recycle?		
Do your customers help you by changing their specifications so your manufacturing processes can be made less polluting?		
Do you have any success stories on pollution prevention or recycling that you would like to publicize or share?		
Have you applied for the Governor's annual pollution prevention award?		
Are you concerned about the level of emissions listed on your Toxic Release Inventory forms?		
Have you thought about pollution prevention as a way to lower these numbers and make you a better member of your community?		
Follow-up		
Would you like more information on pollution prevention?		
Can the Department of Natural Resources be of assistance to you? (i.e. written materials, workshops, conferences, etc.)		

If you answered yes to all or most of these questions, you must be a leader in pollution prevention.

If you answered no to any of them, you may be missing opportunities to do even more than you are now doing on pollution prevention and recycling.

If you have identified some areas where you would to do more and you need some additional information on how to get started, please contact any DNR employee that you normally work with on waste management problems or go to nearest DNR office.

If you answered yes to either of last two questions, you should contact Lynn Perrson (608-267-3763) for more information on training and technical assistance.